LI et al U.S. National Phase of PCT/GB2003/005007

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please insert the Abstract of the Disclosure which is on the attached sheet.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to estimating the global motion between frames of a motion-compensated inter-frame encoded video sequence, directly from the motion vectors encoded within the frames. For any particular frame, a motion estimation is determined from motion vectors direct from the frame's anchor frame to the frame in question. This motion estimation is then checked against pre-determined criteria, and where the criteria are not met, re-estimation along a different route is performed, using the bi-directional motion vectors contained within B-frames. A panoramic image generating method and system which makes uses of the global motion estimations thus obtained is also described.